demands for ransom and murders of employees belonging to governmental/non-governmental companies engaged in developmental work are continuously increasing; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to develop the people of that place mentally to bring them back to the mainstream of nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Ethnic conflict/atmosphere of fear is one of the factors acting as a hindrance in execution of developmental works in the North-Eastern region. .

(b) and (c) There are reports about abduction for ransom and extortion from people engaged in developmental work. The State Governments in the North East have taken step to check the extortion by various outfits from officers/individuals by deploying plain clothes security personnel at important offices and payment of salaries of government employees by cheques etc. and to keep a check on employees who are alleged to have helped the Under Ground outfit in extortions. Many terrorists were arrested by police and booked under relevant provisions of law. Other steps like deployment of additional armed police personnel and regular patrolling/combing activities by the police and para-military forces are being undertaken frequently to curb their activities-Career promotion scheme for CRPF constables

†1825. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the constables of CRPF, who have completed 12 years of service or more have been promoted/benefited under Assured Career Promotion Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the Government propose to provide benefit/promotion

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

under A.C.P. Scheme to the constables who have completed 12 years of service or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) In CRPF, all the constables who are medical category SHAPE-I and have undergone successfully pre-promotional courses, are promoted on their turn even prior to completing 12 years. Remaining constables who are unable to get promotion on completing 12 years service have been given the benefit of ACP.

Increasing atrocities of Bodo

†1826. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atrocities by the Bodo extremists are increasing day-by-day;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action against them so far; and

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) (a) to (c) According to report received from the Government of Assam, militant/terrorist activities of National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) have registered a decline in the year 2001, as compared to the year 2000. The Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) has already come forward for peace talks abjuring the path of violence.

The Government has taken various steps to protect lives and properties from terrorist outfits in Assam. These include, *inter alia,* deployment of Para-military forces and Army in the State, coordinated action by Army, Para-military Forces and State Police for counter militancy operations, declaration of major militant groups as Unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.